IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Toennessen et al.

Serial No.: 10/550,703

Confirmation No.: 6116

Filed: April 16, 2007

For: SYSTEM FOR DEPTH CONTROL

OF A MARINE DEFLECTOR

Group Art Unit: 3617

Examiner: Stephen P. Avila

Atty Dkt.:

14.0234-PCT-US

(WGEC0127)

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 22, 2008

In response to the Office Action dated December 22, 2008, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 23, 2009, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Although Applicants believe that no fee is due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 50-3882/WGEC0127, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Remarks begin on page 12 of this paper.